weapons recovered are handed over alongwith the FIR to the Police. Details with regard to further disposal of these weapons by the State Police are being ascertained from the State Governments.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pilotless Aircraft supplied to Air Force, Navy and Army

333. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of indigenous pilotless aircraft supplied to the Indian Air Force, the Navy and the Army, separately;

(b) the names of the manufacturing units; and

(c) the number of such aircraft manufactured by each unit?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Lakshya Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV) for Aerial Target Practice is in Limited Series Production (LSP) based on indigenous development. Orders have been placed for 5 systems each by the Army, Navy and Air Force. Orders for the Air Force and the Navy are under completion; the Army order is likely to be completed by April 2001.

(b) and (c) The responsibility for Limited Series Production vests with the Aeronautical Development Establishment of DRDO which works closely with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore which is the identified agency for serial production. Several firms in the private and public sector supply Lakshya sub-systems.

Shortage of Army Officers

† 334. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of army officers is being felt in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to take any steps to cover-up this shortage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a shortage of 12853 (28.10%) officers.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

An Image Projection Campaign of the Army was launched during 1997-98 with assistance of a professional advertising agency. The campaign has made a positive impact in that the number of eligible youths opting for a career in the Army has increased. On this consideration, the campaign is continuing.

Apart from the above, the Government have approved, in principle, short term, medium and long term measures to tide over the problem of shortage in Army. This includes reduction in training period of officers by six months at Indian Military Academy (IMA) forex-NDA, Ex-ACC and Direct Entry cadets for a period of two years from January, 2000 to December, 2001 besides constitution of a high level committee to recommend feasible options to make Short Service Commission more attractive.

Pak Infiltration after Kargil War

†335. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to slate:

(a) the number of attempts of Pak infiltration made after the Kargil war;

(b) the number of infiltrators killed or apprehended in this regard and what is their nationality;

(c) the number of incidents of bomb explosion which took place during this period and the number of civilians and security personnel killed and injured in these incidents; and

(d) the comparative details of these incidents in respect of previous years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The number of infiltration attempts foiled by the security forces between 1st August 1999 to 13lh July, 2000 along the Line of Control and International Border in Jammu and Kashmir is 108.

One hundred seventeen terrorists were killed and 11 apprehended in these infiltration attempts. The infiltrators were mostly from Pakistan and POK.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.